

REMARKS

Claims 100-178 remain pending in the present application. Claims 100, 118, 137 and 157 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicants' 19 April 2005 response to the Election of Species requirement was considered to be non-responsive because Applicants only elected a species from Species Set II. Applicants apologize for over looking the remaining two species sets.

Applicants still traverse this Election Requirement for the reasons discussed in our 19 April 2005 response.

Should the Examiner uphold the election of species requirement, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to proceed with Species 5 shown in Figure 9 of Species Set I; Species 7 shown in Figures 18 and 19 of Species Set II; and Species 1 shown in Figure 23A of Species Set III. Applicants believe Claims 100, 102-104, 106, 113-118, 120-122, 124, 131-137, 139-141, 143, 150-157, 159-161, 163 and 170-178 read on the elected species. Applicants request that the non-elected claims be held in abeyance for possible rejoinder and/or further prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request

that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 7, 2005

By: 

Michael J. Schmidt

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

MJS/pmg